

Neo Ganda



Issue no. 2

Lex Talionis/ Self Preservation

By Claudia Berdella

Satan represents vengeance instead of turning the other cheek!

Satan represents responsibility to the responsible instead of concern for psychic vampires!

–5th & 6th Satanic Statements

“The natural law is tooth and claw.”

–Ragnar Redbeard, Might Is Right

It has been said that ‘an eye for an eye makes the world blind’, but this is very much false-- inherently false. You have two eyes, if you are stupid enough to lose both, then clearly you’re the idiot who fucked around and found out... twice, quite obviously not learning from the first time that actions have consequences. As Newton said: *“every action has an equal and opposite reaction.”* It’s simple cause and effect-- punishment fits the crime.

Self-preservation is the highest law and if you cannot preserve your eyes-- a vital organ of your body-- what use are you to yourself as an individual? Demonstrating this is the founder of the philosophical system of Objectivism based on rational self-interest, Ayn Rand put it well when she said, *“the concept of man as a heroic being, with his own happiness as the moral purpose of his life, with productive achievement as his noblest activity, and reason as his absolute.”*

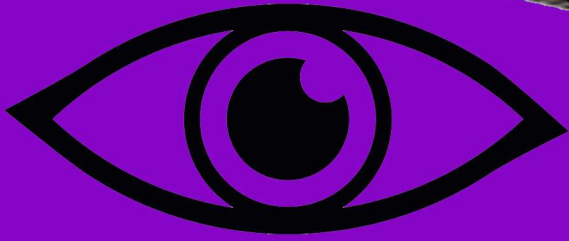
Now, how reasonable are you if you have by your own actions lost both your eyes? How noble are you in productive achievement if you have faced such an example of lex talionis? How heroic and happy are you, having been responsible for the loss of a vital sense? Clearly the reasonable answer to all these is **very little**.

As Lucius Cornelius Sulla put it: *“No friend ever served me, and no enemy ever wrong me, whom I have not repaid in full.”*

Lex Talionis can go either way, in your favor or your detriment. It depends on who you surround yourself with and how you interact with them and others in the world. Do unto others as they do unto you. Of course, this doesn’t mean you should go out and be a pretentiously solipsistic prick, going around administering judgement on anyone who should slightly wrong you. Some people are simply psychic vampires who aren’t worth any of your time. However you also shouldn’t let anyone walk over you.

The "Eye for an Eye" Principle: Discussing the Source of its Ethics

By Adrian Vorono



There has been a principle since Hammurabi, an eye for an eye, suggesting that the appropriate response is to inflict a similar harm to a person who is the cause of one for another. But does this response affect our intellectual perception of our ethics and decisions, or directly come from it?

We can see Immanuel Kant, suggesting a moral order and balance could be established with this principle; we can also see Gandhi and Nietzsche criticizing and questioning how it could lead to a cycle with vengeance and violence, and take caution on this never-ending cycle. In addition to subjectivism, which advocates that ethics is subjective, and moral realism, which advocates the view of objective moral truths, I would like to present a view in which we can look at these more broadly.

Does this principle teach us what should be, or the natural desire of man as it is? Whether the person being harmed is ourselves or someone close to us, our rather humane emotional reaction will be to see the same thing. It is open to debate whether the ethics of this desire are correct and in fact "ethical", further, this raises the question of whether our humane judgments are ethical. It would also be important to note that the application of the principle as we see it would change across legal systems of other cultures, but the human stays the same.

This text, which was an ancient legal code and has survived to the present day, still takes the subjectivity of the decisions made by humans into account. Based on this idea, the conclusion we can reach is that it is true that our moral perceptions are subjective, but we see that objectively accepted moral codes are necessary for an order that aims to create equality in the field of governing society. Some could see it as laws imposed in a controlling way, roughly speaking, but it is necessary to question what exactly we make these judgments about; as mentioned, just a set of rules set for control or it actually does mirror our humane desires on a system.

No matter how dark and bitter the thought of revenge causes, knowing and trying to understand where it comes from should come before this mere judgment. Beyond our personal morality, if understanding each other forms the moral attitude we expect from others and therefore are expected by others, this arises from the perception of self-knowledge. We can see that this valuable thinking, which is important on many issues, can provide a social order when it confronts us with the reality of the consequences of our actions. As a matter of fact, if the lack of it in a society can only be established with a series of set laws, what should be criticized is not the harshness of the law, but the lack of self-knowledge of the people.

"There remains sensations, emotions and appetites. These may be clearly perceived provided we take great care in our judgement concerning them to include no more than what is strictly contained in our perception—no more than that of which we have inner awareness. But this is a very difficult rule to observe, at least with regard to sensations."
(Descartes, Selected Philosophical Writings)

A Rehashed Golden Bash

By Claudia Berdella

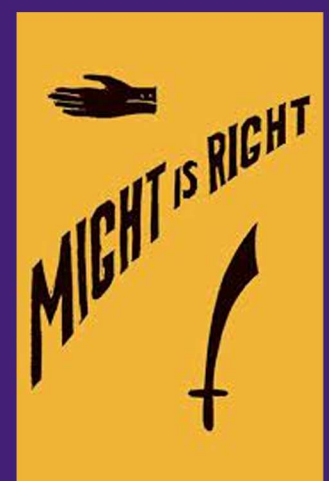
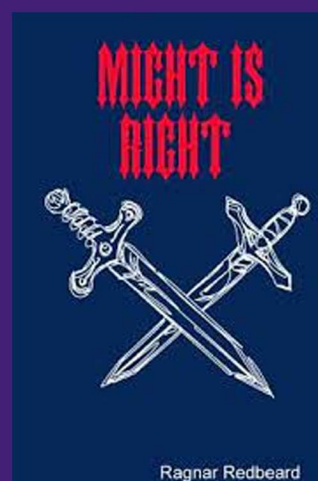
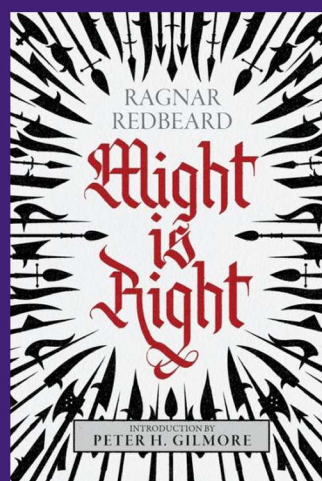
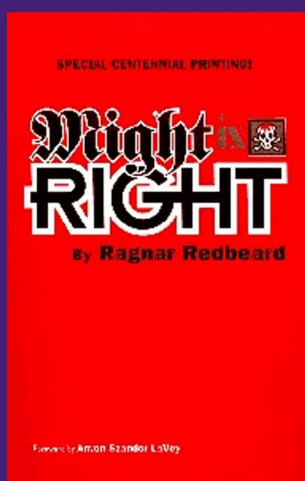
Is the Golden Rule not fulfilled by the Silver Rule? The Golden Rule says to do unto others as you would have them do unto you and as such those subjugated by this literary piracy are oddly upset when one fulfills it and treats one how they ask to be treated. But of course they do get upset, given followers of such insanity never expect a taste of their own medicine as they expect the one they do unto to abide by their rule, and as such when given this taste instantly go into the mode of victimhood, as victimhood is powerful while their actions are misplaced masochism.

"We live in a society of victimization, where people are much more comfortable being victimized than actually standing up for themselves."— Marilyn Manson

"There's a certain segment of the population for whom being victimized is the ultimate form of heroism..." --Boyd Rice

Excerpt from Might Is Right:

The very phrase that He uses to sum-up and memorize His patent Cure-all, was undoubtedly stolen (directly or indirectly) from Plato, the Rig Veda, or Confucius. The Golden Rule, is, not only a snare and a tangle, but it also is—a literary piracy.



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